



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

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**CRYSTAL CITY MAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON
FOR CONSPIRING TO TRANSPORT AND HARBORING ILLEGAL ALIENS**

U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that Jesus "Chuy" Guevara-Hernandez was sentenced to 108 months in federal prison for conspiring to transport and harboring illegal aliens.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Alia Ludlum ordered that Guevara-Hernandez pay a \$12,500 fine and be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing his prison term.

On July 27, 2005, a jury convicted Guevara-Hernandez of one count of conspiracy to transport illegal aliens and two counts of harboring illegal aliens. Guevara-Hernandez was the leader/organizer of a smuggling organization that picked up illegal aliens along Highways 393 and 277, delivered them to the defendant's trailer located in the Chula Vista subdivision in Crystal City, and subsequently transport them to diverse destinations within Texas (including San Antonio, Austin, Dallas, and Houston) and throughout the United States.

Testimony presented at trial revealed that Guevara-Hernandez gave orders, provided vehicles and cell phones to facilitate transportation, made his trailer home available to temporarily warehouse the aliens and would pay up to \$1200 cash for delivering illegal alien loads to destinations within Texas.

On February 20, 2005, Border Patrol agents, ICE agents, and the Zavala County Sheriff's office responded to a tip that illegal aliens were located at the defendant's trailer in Crystal City. Law enforcement officers subsequently discovered 30 illegal aliens inside the trailer. Earlier the same day, Border Patrol agents stopped two vehicles containing 14 illegal aliens who had also been warehoused inside Guevara-Hernandez's trailer. The evidence at trial revealed Guevara-Hernandez was responsible for smuggling countless illegal aliens for financial gain on a routine basis.

This case was investigated by agents from Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from the Department of Homeland Security together with the Zavala County Sheriff's Office. Assistant United States Attorneys Robert J. Brady, Jr., and Robert Cadena prosecuted this case on behalf of the Government.

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